

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In addition, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-18, 20-70, and 73-202 are allowable. By this amendment, Applicants cancel claim 72 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 6, 9, 16, 20, 23, 26, 35, 37, 45, 50, 53, 60, 64, 81, 110, 132, 170, 171, and 175. Claims 1-18, 20-70, and 73-202 are pending and under consideration.

Amendments to claims 6, 9, 16, 20, 23, 26, 35, 37, 45, 50, 53, 60, 64, 81, 110, 132, 170, 171, and 175:

Amendments to claims 6, 9, 16, 20, 23, 26, 35, 37, 45, 50, 53, 60, 64, 81, 110, 132, 170, 171, and 175 correct minor informalities in the preceding set of claims. These amendments add no new matter and do not affect the substance of the disclosure, or the scope of the claims.

Rejection of claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,058,095 to Yamamoto et al., ("Yamamoto") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,480,344 to Maruyama ("Maruyama"). Office Action at pages 2-3. By this amendment, Applicants cancel claim 72 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully assert that this cancellation moots the Examiner's rejection as to claim 72. Thus, with the Examiner indicating the that all of the remaining



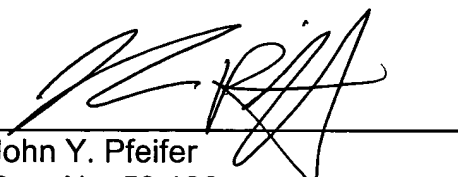
claims are allowable over the cited art, Applicants respectfully assert that this case is in condition for allowance.

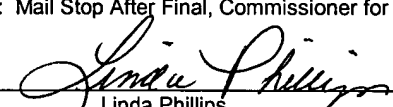
Applicants respectfully request the timely allowance of the pending claims. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 23, 2004

By: 
John Y. Pfeifer
Reg. No. 52,120

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
Express Mail Label No.: EV 398889581	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, addressed to: Mail Stop After Final, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.	
Date: <u>April 23, 2004</u>	Signed:  Linda Phillips